AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently amended)** A vector for the oral administration of at least one pharmacologically active substance, ~~that allows said pharmacologically active substance to pass from the intestinal lumen to the blood, optionally via the interstitial fluid, without any substantial denaturation or degradation of said pharmacologically active substance,~~ said vector comprising:

a matrix that is essentially hydrophilic in nature, the outer surface of which is modified with one or more chemical species that attach to said matrix by weak bonds and give said vector an essentially lipophilic nature, ~~and~~ said matrix containing ~~one or more of~~ said at least one pharmacologically active substance,

wherein said vector has gastric protection that contains said vector in a lipophilic compound,

said vector allows said pharmacologically active substance to pass from the intestinal lumen to the blood, optionally via the interstitial fluid, without denaturation or degradation of said at least one pharmacologically active substance.

2. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein said vector is biocompatible and bioassimilable or metabolizable at a pH of between approximately 6.5 and 7.5~~, ideally between approximately 7.2 and 7.3~~.

3. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chemical species are detached from the matrix when the vector passes from the intestinal lumen to the blood, optionally via the interstitial fluid.

4. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the main constituent of the hydrophilic matrix is ~~selected~~ chosen from polylactates, poly(lactate-co-glycolate)s, polymers or copolymers based on hyaluronic acid, on chitosan, on starch, on dextran ~~and the like,~~ and ~~also~~ copolymers thereof and mixtures thereof.

5. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the chemical species are ~~selected~~ chosen from paraffins, lecithins, amino acids, fatty acids, ~~in general and also~~ derivatives of fatty acids, ~~thereof~~ (esters, ~~and the like, for example~~ stearates, glycerides[[)]], benzyls, inositol phosphates (IPs), glycerol

phosphates, lipophilic polymers~~, and the like~~, and ~~also~~ mixtures thereof.

6. **(Canceled)**

7. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim ~~6~~1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the weak bonds are bonds of electrostatic and/or ionic nature and/or of hydrogen bond type.

8. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that its~~ wherein said vector has a largest dimension that is between approximately 10 nm and approximately 10 µm~~, preferably between approximately 100 nm and approximately 500 nm, more preferably between approximately 200 nm and approximately 300 nm~~.

9. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein said vector is in the form of spheres having a diameter of between approximately 10 nm and approximately 10 µm~~, preferably between approximately 100 nm and approximately 500 nm, for example between approximately 200 nm and approximately 300 nm~~.

10. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein said vector comprises a matrix in the form of a gel containing said ~~active substance(s)~~at least one pharmaceutically active substance or ~~else~~ a mixture ~~of active substances~~ thereof.

11. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein said vector comprises a matrix in the form of a capsule containing said ~~active substance(s)~~ at least one pharmaceutically active substance or ~~else~~ a mixture ~~of active substances~~thereof.

12. **(Canceled)**

13. **(Withdrawn)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, for which the gastric protection is solid in nature, in the form of a gel, or is in the form of a coating or of a capsule.

14. **(Withdrawn)** The vector as claimed in claim 13, for which the gastric protection is in the form of a capsule.

15. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gastric protection comprises constituents selected from alginates, ~~such as~~

calcium alginate, carboxymethylcellulose ~~and the like~~, and ~~also~~ mixtures thereof.

16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the lipophilic compound is selected from the group consisting of organic oils, mineral oils, plant oils, animal oils, and mixtures thereof.

18. **(Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, said vector consisting of a plurality of hydrophilic capsules modified with the chemical species that give them a lipophilic nature, said capsules being dispersed in a lipophilic medium that is itself contained in a capsule that ~~acts as~~ provides gastric protection.

19. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one pharmaceutically active substance is selected from substances capable of being denatured or degraded upon direct oral administration.

20. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one

pharmaceutically active substance is a peptide or a protein in nature.

21. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** The vector as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one pharmaceutically active substance is insulin.

22. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** A gastroresistant carrier comprising one or more of said vectors as claimed in claim 1.

23. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one said vector as defined in claim 1 or a gastroresistant carrier comprising at least one said vector.

24. **(Withdrawn - Currently amended)** ~~Method~~ A method of preparing a medicament that is active when administered orally in human or veterinary therapy and that has curative and/or preventive properties and/or properties that allow diagnosis, which comprises using an effective amount of [[a]] the vector as claimed in claim 1 with an appropriate excipient.

25. **(Withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 24, for producing a pharmaceutical product intended for the treatment of diabetes.

26. **(Withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 24, for producing a pharmaceutical product intended for oral immunization.

27. **(Withdrawn)** A method for treating diabetes, said method comprising administering an effective amount of the vector as claimed in claim 1, in association with an appropriate excipient, wherein the pharmaceutically active substance is insulin.

28. **(Withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the diabetes is Type 1 diabetes.

29. **(Withdrawn)** The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the diabetes is Type 1 diabetes.

30. **(New)** The vector of claim 2, wherein said vector is biocompatible or bioassimilable or metabolizable at a pH of between approximately 7.2 and 7.3.

31. **(New)** The vector of claim 1, wherein said vector has a largest dimension that is between approximately 100nm and approximately 500nm.

32. **(New)** The vector of claim 1, wherein said vector has a largest dimension that is between approximately 200nm and approximately 300nm.

33. **(New)** The vector of claim 8, wherein said vector is in the form of spheres having a diameter of between approximately 100 nm and approximately 500nm.

34. **(New)** The vector of claim 8, wherein said vector is in the form of spheres having a diameter of between approximately 200 nm and approximately 300 nm.